

Victorian Freight and Logistics Industry COVID-19 update

21 August 2021

Updated restrictions for Victoria

Today the Premier and Chief Health Officer announced a number of updates to restrictions for Victoria.

Regional Victoria

From 1pm 21 August 2021 until 11.59pm 2 September 2021, all of regional Victoria will move to same restrictions as metropolitan Melbourne – except for the curfew.

This means people who live in regional Victoria cannot leave their home other than for one of the five following reasons:

- shopping for necessary goods and services
- caregiving or compassionate reasons, including medical care or [to get a COVID-19 test](#)
- [authorised work](#) (with a [permit](#)) or permitted education
- exercise (once a day for 2 hours)
- [to get a COVID-19 vaccination](#)

Metropolitan Melbourne

A permit system for authorised workers or those with vulnerable children will be introduced to access childcare (same as last year's rules).

High risk industries will not be able to operate at 100 per cent.

Construction to 25 per cent across the State with other sectors such as abattoirs, meat processing, supermarket depots to have new arrangements.

Workforce limits apply to the construction industry from 1pm today.

Government will be engaging with industry over the coming days about safely reducing staff numbers as they secure sites.

To give industry time to adjust, workforce permits will be required to leave the house for authorised work from 11.59pm 23 August 2021.

State-wide

Face masks will still be mandatory outdoors and indoors (not at home) unless an exception applies – this includes all workplaces, and secondary schools.

Victoria's public health team are also strongly recommending that primary school aged children, when they are not at home, also wear a mask as an extra precaution against this virus.

For more information about Victorian restrictions please visit <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>

Media release <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/lockdown-across-regional-victoria-keep-us-safe>

Table of restrictions and authorised premises and worker list

<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-08/210821%20-%20Table%20of%20Restrictions.pdf>

National Freight Code

On 20 August 2021, National Cabinet noted that Transport Ministers have agreed to an updated Freight Movement Protocol and Code that delivers a streamlined and more consistent approach to COVID-19 testing in line with recent advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC).

Under the revised National Freight Movement Code and Protocol, freight workers crossing state and territory borders are required to have a negative COVID-19 test result in a rolling seven-day period.

In some cases, workers may also need to be tested more frequently depending on particular requirements, however the National Freight Movement Code and Protocol agreement means there is now a streamlined set of rules across jurisdictions to ensure freight can move efficiently and testing is as consistent as possible.

For more information on the revised code visit www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/vehicle_regulation/heavy-vehicles

For more information on the National Cabinet meeting visit pm.gov.au/media



Department
of Transport